

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION
FOR FORESTERS
Board Meeting: May 23, 2007**

A meeting of the Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters was held on Wednesday, May 23, 2007, at the Office of the Division Director, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

The following Board members were present:

W. Dale Greene, Chairman and Forester
John Britt, Vice Chairman and Forester
John W. Mixon, Forester
Glenn Warnock, Forester

Others present:

Gwyn H. Ridley, Executive Director
Ruth Reece, Applications Specialist
Patricia Downing, Board Attorney
Inez Lockett, Examination Consultant
Craig Fluck, Examination Consultant
L. D. Moore, Investigative Unit

Chairman Greene established a quorum was present at 9:30 a.m. and called the meeting to order.

Mr. Britt made a motion to **approve** the minutes of the February 13, 2007 teleconference Board meeting. Mr. Mixon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Britt made a motion to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A.43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h) to deliberate on applications and investigative matters and to receive an investigative report. Mr. Warnock seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion were those members present who included Board Members Britt, Greene, Mixon, and Warnock. The Board concluded **Executive Session** in order to vote on these matters and to continue with the public session.

Applications:

The Board reviewed the list of applicants licensed since the last review. Mr. Warnock made a motion to **approve** the following for licensure. Mr. Britt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

License No.	Name	Date	Method
RF002530	James Alexander Branch, IV	03/13/07	Reinstatement
RF002807	Matthew Thomas Dykes	04/03/07	Examination

Applications were presented for the Board's review. Mr. Mixon made a motion to **approve** the following applications for examination and reinstatement that met certification requirements. Mr. Warnock seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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The following applicant was **approved** to take the examination and to be licensed upon passing the examination:

Paul David Ferre

The following applicants were **approved** for Licensure by Examination:

RF002808	Jason Edward Little
RF002809	Joseph Wesley Shiver, Jr.
RF002810	Jonathan Eric Hart
RF002811	Clay Michael Hicks
RF002812	Vaniel Cody Hale, IV
RF002813	Jeremy Clay Whigham

The following applicant was **approved** for Reinstatement:

RF002482 Robert Taylor Clarke

Investigative Unit's Report:

The Investigative Unit updated the Board on the following case. Mr. Mixon made a motion to schedule investigative interviews. Mr. Britt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

FOR060046

Examination Unit's Report:

Ms. Lockett reported on longitudinal data requested by the Board at a prior meeting.

Executive Director's Report:

The Executive Director updated the Board on the following items:

- Registrant Totals for 2003-2007
- General Provisions – Update for Law and Rules
- Upcoming Meeting – Secretary of State Karen Handel and Board Chairmen.

Correspondence:

Michael Thompson: The Board reviewed correspondence regarding continuing forestry education.

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Lewis P. Brown, Jr.: The Board discussed correspondence pertaining to the possibility of a course counting toward continuing education requirements. The Board advised Mr. Brown to contact the appropriate Society of American Foresters (SAF) staff at the University of Georgia.

Bob Wells: The Board reviewed correspondence pertaining to an online Forestry Ethics course that is now available.

ASBORF

The Board noted that John Britt will be attending the 2007 Annual meeting in Choctaw, MS.

Legislation

The Board discussed the following bills introduced during the legislative session.

SB116 – State Forestry Commission; qualifications of the director; change provisions

SB176 – State Forestry Commission; reports to General Assembly; change certain provisions

SB226 – Qualified Soil Scientists; evaluations/reports shall be accepted by Dept. of Natural Resources/Dept. Human Resources

Policy

The Board discussed out of state applicants applying to take the examination for Georgia licensure without first having a license in another jurisdiction. Mr. Mixon made a motion to adopt a policy that when an applicant (from another jurisdiction that has State Board Registration requirements) applies for initial licensure by examination in Georgia, and the applicant is not licensed in his home/resident state; then, the applicant must sit for the examination in his home/resident state and become licensed in his home/resident state first. The applicant will then be eligible for consideration of licensure in Georgia by reciprocity. Mr. Britt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

The Board discussed correspondence from Bainbridge College, Okefenokee Technical College, and Swainsboro Technical College. Mr. Greene will prepare a response for Board review as discussed.

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There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Marie S. Urquhart
Recorded by Board Secretary

Gwyn H. Ridley
Reviewed by Executive Director

W. Dale Greene
Chairman

These minutes were approved on August 15, 2007

These minutes were signed on August 15, 2007

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Attachment

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF **BIBB**

**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING
OF PUBLIC MEETING**

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq., requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specific exceptions relied upon. O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting in question.

Comes now W. DALE GREENE, the presiding officer

identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all over aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On May 23, 2007 this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of the members present voted to close the meeting or a portion thereof for the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.

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4. The legal authority for the closure of this meeting was:

OCGA 43-1-2 (k); 43-1-19(h)

5. The subject(s) discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are:

RECEIPT OF AND DELIBERATIONS REGARDING APPLICATIONS
AND APPLICATION INFORMATION AND DELIBERATIONS
REGARDING INVESTIGATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT MATTERS;
RECEIPT OF THE RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS.

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

W. Dale Greene
PRESIDING OFFICER

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME

This 23rd day of May, 2007

Jennifer Baden
Notary Public